



TALKING POINTS: Motion to Recommit on 9/11 Commission Bill

OUR PRINCIPLE: *We are a sovereign nation and we lead the worldwide effort in the Global War on Terror. We will not cede our ability to pursue terrorists to international organizations or other states.*

We believe the Democrat proposal to have the UN authorize the Proliferation Security Initiative (PSI) under 'international law' not only sets a dangerous precedent with regards to the way we work to protect ourselves and our allies from WMD, but it could also lead to the outright gutting of the PSI.

The Republican Motion to Recommit states that the U.S. should not have to seek permission or approval from the U.N. to administer programs like PSI.

Democrats who oppose the motion to recommit are voting to cede to the UN our government's authority to prosecute the War on Terror. This is a laughable notion when you consider that the UN does not even recognize a formal definition of 'terrorism.'

- The PSI is a multilateral program launched by the United States. An American national security program should require the approval of the American people, not the United Nations.

The PSI is highly effective in halting the spread of WMD. The PSI was launched in Krakow, Poland, on May 31, 2003, and has grown from a handful of nations to a global partnership of more than 70 countries from all around the world. The State Department credits PSI with halting more than two-dozen weapons-related transfers from 2005-2006.

- In October 2003, the United States, United Kingdom, Germany and Italy acting under the auspices of the PSI stopped an illegal cargo of centrifuge parts for uranium enrichment destined for Libya. Shortly thereafter, Libya announced its intention to dismantle its WMD program.
- The PSI is responsible for the dismantling of Pakistani scientist A.Q. Khan's network, stretching over three continents.

The UN has praised the PSI. In March 2005, UN Secretary General Kofi Annan acknowledged the importance of the PSI at a Madrid summit on terrorism, saying, *"I applaud the efforts of the Proliferation Security Initiative to fill a gap in our defenses."* The PSI does not need to be under the domain of the UN in order for the UN to recognize the invaluable contributions the program has made in combating global terrorism.